

Did I send you
a copy of my Re-
print of the trait
on the murder
by false witness? I
think I did, and
I am sure
I ought.

Maidenhead

8 April 1866

My dear Sir Walter

It gives me great
pleasure to see your hand-
writing again. It is like
the agreeable renewal of
old acquaintance. I am
now in my 78th year, so
that I have not much
time, nor much inclina-
tion, to make new friend-
ships; and it might be a
point in my history, that
out of my own family
I never had a friend who,

for some cause or other, did not desert me — *mea culpa* perhaps. I have been very unlucky, or very undeserving, probably the last.

May I express my hope that Lady Trevelyan enjoys better health than when we had the pleasure of seeing her in our neighbourhood?

I am glad to hear that your cousin Sir Charles (whose aid to my son I shall always remember with gratitude) is recovering after his oriental exhaustion.

You see that I am still a potterer about old Poetry, *ægre in corde senescit*;

but, I say it without flattery, one of the pleasantest things connected with the publication of my "Bibliographical Account" is that you have been interested by it. As to Morgan's Letters I have the whole of "N+2", but after Vol V. in such "admirable disorder", that I cannot refer to a single number of the work. Thank you, however, for the information, which I shall use, with sorrow that I omitted it in the right place. Had I ever seen "the Ditty" I should have been sure to have printed such a curiosity. I would give £50 for it.

My main trouble

(without a pun) is the rheu-
matism in my hand. I
cannot write so well, nor
so freely (in every sense of
the word) as twenty years ago.

I employ my leisure
here with superintending Re-
prints of old prose & poetry;
and in this way, I may ven-
ture to say that I confer
some benefit upon our Lite-
rature. Our language was
never better used, or perhaps
better understood, than when
our authorised version of
the Bible was printed. I am

My dear Sir Walter
Yours most sincerely and
always much obliged

J. Payne Collier
St W. C. Twyden Bart &c &c